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Donald S. Prater

Name (Print)

Donald S. Prater
Signature

**Expedited Procedure Requested
Under 37 C.F.R. §1.116**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Rumpf et al.

Application No.: 09/857,490

Filed: June 1, 2001

Docket No.: 97116CIP (3600-340)

) Examiner: Stuart L. Hendrickson

) Group Art Unit: 1754

) Confirmation No.: 5371

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For: PROCESS FOR PRODUCTION OF CARBON BLACK

OFFICIAL

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

June 2, 2004

Sir:

This Amendment is in response to the final Office Action dated March 2, 2004, for which the Examiner has set a three-month period for response, thus making the response due on or before June 2, 2004.

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this paper.